REMARKS

The final Office Action of January 6, 2005 has been received and its contents reviewed. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 4, 15, 31 and 45-48 have been amended and claims 14 and 63 have been cancelled. Claims 2, 13 and 56 have been previously cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-12, 15-55, 57-62 and 64-67 are pending for consideration, of which claims 1 and 45 are independent. By the actions above and the remarks below, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 3 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for various reasons. Applicant has amended the claims to correct these inconsistencies. Specifically, with regard to claim 3, the dependency of the claim has been changed from cancelled claim 2 to independent claim 1. Also, claim 44 has been amended to correct the antecedence issue discussed in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-12, 14-25, 28-41, 45-52, 57-62, 63-66 and 67 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,218,964 to Ellis in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,708,208 to Philyaw. Additionally, claims 26, 27, 42-44 and 53-55 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellis and Philyaw and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,154,658 to Caci. In view of the amendments provided above and the comments to follow, Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Ellis is directed to a reading pen (or input and output hand held device) that includes both digital and mechanical features. The digital features include a scanner for scanning printed information, including "selecting" information, pictures, etc., for color and/or patterns, a microphone for receiving dictated information, a digitizer for digitizing the scanned and dictated information, a computer processor, a storage, a visual display, a printer, and a speaker (see Abstract).

Philyaw is directed to a unique bar code for indicating a link between a product and a remote location on a web network (see Abstract).

As discussed previously, the present invention is directed to, in one exemplary embodiment, a computer architecture for providing a bridge between tangible media and

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computer media. The computer architecture includes a bridge server computer system including a database and a server control program. Also, a portable client device is provided that includes a bridge control program and an input device. The portable client device is adapted to receive and store bridge codes associated with tangible media objects entered via the input device. The architecture also includes a communications channel coupling the bridge server computer system and the client device to download the previously stored bridge codes from the client device to the bridge server computer system. The server control program is operative to query the database based on the received bridge codes, to display a plurality of links to computer media on a client computer system that is different from said portable client device, wherein the links correspond to the received bridge codes. Upon activation of one of said plurality of links, action commands in said database in correspondence to the bridge code associated with the activated link is executed. The present invention is also set forth in a similar method for bridging tangible media and computer media. Applicant respectfully submits that neither Ellis or Philyaw, alone or in combination, teach or suggest each and every feature of the claimed invention.

For example, as now recited in independent claim 1, the claimed server control program is operative to query said database based on the received bridge codes, to display a plurality of links to computer media on a client computer system that is different from said portable client device, wherein the links correspond to the received bridge codes and, upon activation of one of said plurality of links, to execute action commands in said database in correspondence to the bridge code associated with the activated link.

As indicated on page 3 of the Office Action, the Ellis patent does not specifically employ a bridge server and the server control program as set forth in the present application. The Philyaw patent is employed to allegedly solve the deficiencies of Ellis. Applicant however respectfully submits that Philyaw does not solve these deficiencies. Specifically, Applicant submits that the Philyaw patent does not "display a plurality of links to computer media on a client computer system that is different from said portable client device, wherein the links correspond to the received bridge codes" or upon activation of one of said plurality of links to "execute action commands in said database in correspondence to the bridge code associated with the activated link," as now set forth in independent claim 1.

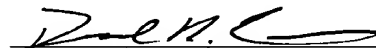Rather, Philyaw employs a system in which while a user is watching a preferred

program, an audio signal is received and, encoded information placed by an advertiser, is retrieved. This information, in the form of digital data is transmitted to a location on the global communications network via modem connection. A communication link is then set up so that the user can view, on the display information provided by the advertiser (see column 5, lines 4-37).

In Philyaw, rather than display a plurality of links that correspond to the previously stored bridge codes and executing action commands in response to selection of one of the links, the Philyaw program appears to immediately retrieve an advertiser's link without allowing user selection of a link. Thus, Applicant submits that Philyaw does not solve the deficiencies of Ellis. Accordingly, even if the teachings of Ellis and Philyaw are combined in the manner alleged in the Office Action, the presently claimed invention does not result. Specifically, Applicant submits that Philyaw does not disclose or suggest "display a plurality of links to computer media on a client computer system that is different from said portable client device, wherein the links correspond to the received bridge codes" or upon activation of one of said plurality of links to "execute action commands in said database in correspondence to the bridge code associated with the activated link," as now set forth in independent claim 1. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Additionally, Applicant submits that dependent claims 3-12 and 15-44 are allowable for at least the same reasons described above with regard to independent claim 1 as well as for reasons of their own. Similarly, independent claim 45 and associated dependent claims 46-55, 57-62 and 64-67 are allowable for similar reasons as described above with regard to independent claim 1. Accordingly, for these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding art rejection.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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